

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service



Iowa Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending April 15, 2018 Issued April 16, 2018

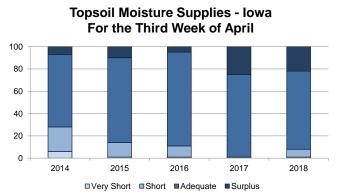
Media Contact: Greg Thessen

As cold, wet weather persisted yet another week, statewide Iowa farmers had only 1.3 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending April 15, 2018, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. When conditions allowed, farmers in the southern two-thirds of the State were busy applying fertilizer and seeding oats with isolated reports of tillage.

Topsoil moisture levels rated 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 70 percent adequate and 22 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** levels rated 3 percent very short, 12 percent short, 74 percent adequate and 11 percent surplus. Recent heavy snow and rain have left northern Iowa with surplus soil moisture.

Twelve percent of the expected **oat** crop has been planted, 9 days behind last year and 10 days behind the 5-year average. While one-quarter of the oats have been planted in east central and southwest Iowa, northwest and north central Iowa have yet to get planting underway.

Livestock producers continue to experience challenges with snowfall and below normal temperatures stalling spring pasture growth and making tending to calves difficult throughout much of the State.



Field Work and Crop Progress as of April 15, 2018

Itom	Districts									State	Last	Last	5-yr
ltem	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	SW	SC	SE	State	Week	Year	Avg
	(percent)												
Oats planted	0	0	3	14	4	25	25	21	15	12	4	38	43

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 15, 2018

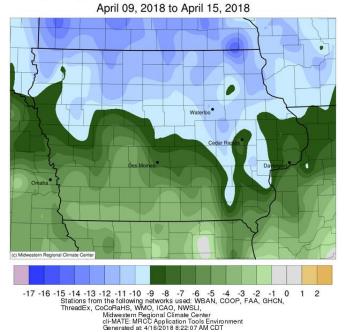
Item			Ctoto	Last	Last							
	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	SW	SC	SE	State	Week	Year
	(days)											
Days suitable	0.1	0.0	0.5	1.8	1.3	1.8	3.3	2.5	2.1	1.3	0.8	3.0
	(percent)											
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	7	1	2	0
Short	0	0	1	4	6	10	8	35	21	7	7	1
Adequate	62	71	68	76	80	80	80	51	48	70	76	74
Surplus	38	29	31	20	13	10	12	4	24	22	15	25
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	20	17	3	3	1
Short	1	1	2	7	12	12	24	56	32	12	12	3
Adequate	71	87	83	82	82	78	73	24	49	74	77	76
Surplus	28	12	15	11	4	8	3	0	2	11	8	20

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

Provided by Michael Timlin, Regional Climatologist Midwestern Regional Climate Center

Temperatures were below normal across the state, with readings more below normal further to the north. Precipitation was well above normal along the northern border and below normal along the southern border. Temperatures ranged from about 3 degrees cooler than normal in the south to as much as 12 degrees cooler than normal in the north. Freezing temperatures were recorded statewide in the first couple days of the week and then again for all but the southeast counties on the morning of the 15th. Minimum temperatures were above freezing on the 12th through the 14th for much of the state. Warm daytime temperatures pushed into the southern half of the state with a handful of 80 degree readings in southwestern Iowa. The warmest reading was 85 degrees on the 14th in Sidney. The coldest readings of the week were in northeastern Iowa on the 9th when Waukon fell to 4 degrees and Cresco fell to 8 degrees. Many northern Iowa stations recorded lows in the teens and below freezing highs during the week. Soil temperatures in the south climbed above 40 degrees but remained near freezing in the northwest. Precipitation totals ranged up to 3.91 inches in Spirit Lake and topped 3 inches at a handful of northern stations. Along the western and southern borders of the state, precipitations totals of less than a quarter inch were reported at multiple stations. Snow also was reported statewide, with totals exceeding a foot at some stations in northwestern and north central parts of the state. Spirit Lake reported 20.1 inches in the 7-day period. Storms on the 13th brought large hail and strong winds to Iowa. Hail reports up to 2 inches in diameter and wind damage reports to buildings and vehicles stretched between the southwest and northeast corners of the state.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals



Accumulated Precipitation (in)



